Our Philatelia.

Christmas Number.

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For Our Philatelia.

POST DELIVERIES FROM THE TIME OF CÆSAR TO THE PRESENT TIME.

BY MAX.

I suppose our readers have heard how public and government matter was delivered in the the time of Cæsar, centuries ago when Rome was in all her glory. If not I will try in this small space to show the advance of postal delivery from that time to this.

From a place in Rome which is called the golden mile stone the Romans built fine roads to all parts of that dominion. It is on these roads that the messengers started with the mail for distant places. At equal distances along the roads were built post houses where tired horses could be exchanged for the fresh ones. These messengers have been known to travel on horse back at the rate of 150 miles per day.

In some of the countries north of Rome the mail was taken by fast runners who carried it about ten miles and then the next runner would carry it another ten miles, and so on, sometimes covering seventy-five miles a day.

Now moving north-west from Rome we come to England the first country to establish a post office. From this office the mail was carried weekly to all of England's possesions on the main land.

All our collectors are more or less familiar with the word penny-post. The penny-post was first established by two enterprising young men in London for the delivery of mail weighing not over one pound. This was in the reign of Charles II. The penny post was at first thought to be useless but as time advanced it increased with such rapidity that the Government took the delivery into its own hands.

We now cross the Atlantic to the "King of Postal Unions," the United States of America. The first we hear of postal service in the United Sates was in 1670 when a communication was opened between New York and Boston and traveled once a week by a horseman and later by a stage-coach.

From the time spoken of in the last paragraph to well up in the eighteenth hundreds the letters were paid for at the end of their journey, but in 1845 and 1846 some of the most important cities such as New York, Providence and New Haven issued stamps for their own use. In 1847 there was general issue by the government.

In 1873 the people hailed with great joy the issue of postal cards and from that time to this postal cards have occupied from one-fifth to one-fourth of the mail matter of the United States.

At the present time the mails are delivered from two to four times a day in all the cities. A letter will travel from New York to Boston in six hours where in 1672 it took four to five days. A letter comes from England in as many days as it used to take weeks.

Our Philatelia.

Devoted to the interest of the average collector. Published monthly.

GEORGE H. HOPE, EDITOR.

Subscription 10 cents per year.

Advertising Rates: 20 cents per inch, 60 cents per half column, $1.00 per column, $1.80 per page. 10, 15 and 20 per cent discount respectively for 3, 6 and 12 months contracts.

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Next issue published January 20. Forms close January 14.

Address all communications to

GEORGE H. HOPE, Publisher,
61 Courtland Street, Providence, R. I.

EDITORIALS.

Judson N. Burton has had trouble with the directors of the P. S. of A.

Has Roy Farrel Greene surrendered the Sons of Philatelia Library to the present librarian.

Do not advertise and stop,
But advertise and stay,
For those who read your "ad" last month,
Will look for it to-day.

Who is the average collector? We will try to answer that in an article next month.

The postal authorities have decided that black envelopes are unmailable, the cause being the indistinctness of the cancellation.

Mr. Sanford of Portsmouth, R. I., has postponed the publication of his Rhode Island Philatelic Hand Book and Directory on account of the condition of his eyes.

As a special inducement to increase our subscription list we offer as a premium, to every person sending 15 cents for a year's subscription, Eureka 100 variety packet as advertised on page four.

UNITED STATES SUNDAY STAMPS.

BY GEORGE H. HOPE.

At the present time many people, being conscientious, believe that letters should not be forwarded on Sunday. The Belgium government tried a set of stamps on which was stated whether the letter was to be forwarded on Sunday or not.

People who wish to send a letter often drop it in a box Saturday night, and unknown to the conscientious person, that letter travels all day Sunday. Now in the opinion of that person that letter ought to have stayed in the office until Monday morning. That person might have avoid the letter traveling Sunday by not sending it until Monday morning but it might take more than a week to reach its destination.

To avoid this mistake and set that persons conscience at ease, why not issue a set of Sunday stamps and see how the people of the United States stand. Let us remember that it is no more agreeable for the mail clerk to work seven days a week than it would be for us.

This set is not obliged to be like that of Belgium, but might be a separate set from our regular issue and only the lower denominations, say from 1c to 10c. There has at times been talk of issuing a flag stamp, but an objection as to the expense has always been raised. Now why would this not be a good opportunity for a flag stamp as the number issued would be comparatively small.

What a page it would make in our albums, a set of Sunday stamps showing our patriotism by being on a flag.—*Seneca*

Italy has issued an official card bearing the same type as the regular card. It is printed in rose on cream.

OUR CONTEMPORIES.

BY EPOH.

The Christmas Pennsy is expected to be a grand success.

The Diamond Philatelist has been enlarged. It looks better in its new garb.

The Stamp Lore has the best heading and typographical appearance of any paper yet seen.

The Ontario Philatelist is improving under difficulties.

The Monthly Observer has not as much about philately in its columns as it migh.

The Eastern Stamp is a neat little publication worthy of praise.

The Evergreen State Philatelist is a neater sheet "than of old." The December number is up-to-date.

"The Kid" is out, a trifle queer, but it is a fact. It is a philatelic paper published by Greene Bros.

The first number of Philatelic Literature was published November 21. Its Literary Chronicle is very convenient, containing as it does 13 announcements, 19 births, 3 deaths, 6 cases of serious illness and one divorce.

A collection worth about $1,000, owned by Mr. S. A. Stevens of Portland Me., has been stolen. The circumstances were similar to the theft Mr. Wood of Providence experienced.

Our Philatelia is Up-To-Date. A years subscription 10 cents.

AUCTION SALES.

of stamps, philatelic literature etc. held every month. Catalogues free. Do you want to buy or sell? Write anyway.

E. L. SHOVE, Unionville. N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1889.

A. F. SWEET,

CRANSTON R. I., U. S. A.

BOY'S $1.00 OUTFIT.

This is the best Dollar outfit on the market to-day. It contains:

200 Stamps to sell at 1c each	$2.00
125 Stamps to sell at 2c each	2.50
50 Stamps to sell at 3c each	1.50
10 Stamps to sell at 5c each	.50
3 Stamps to sell at 10c each	.30
2 Stamps to sell at 15c each	.30
Total	$7.10

Price $1.00

SCOTT'S CATALOGUES.

57th EDITION.

I will sell them for the sum of 43C each and pay the postage.

WANT LIST.

I will fill your want list of United States postage stamps at 33⅓ off. State what stamps you want and enclose cash, if I have not got them I will return your money.

FREE

I will give 100 varieties of Foreign Stamps absolutely free to everyone sending for my sheets.

A. F. SWEET,

CRANSTON. R. I., U. S. A.

For BOYS ONLY.

Send for one of my 10c packets, containing 100 all different. A three cent stamp free with each. Approval sheets at 33⅓% to 50% commission. Send immediately; it will pay you. 1000 perforated stamp hinges 9c. 3000 for 23c.

EUREKA STAMP CO.,

P. O. Box 739, **East Providence, R. I.**

Correspondence with English speaking collectors in foreign countries desired.

GEORGE H. HOPE.

61 Courtland St., Providence, R. I. U. S. A.

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SPECIAL.

Complete set Argentine, ½ to 5 pesos, used for $1.00; ten sets for $10.00 (15 stamps).

PACKET ARGENTINE contains 20 stamps, all different, including the two rare Columbian stamps, used, for $1.00 Ten packages for $8.00

Terms, net cash in advance. Foreign correspondence solicited and agents wanted. Common shipments and such as are not register receive no attention. Basis of exchange, Scott's 55 edition. Note the address.

J. EMILIO MONNET,

Calle Arenales, 1718,

BUENOS AYRES, Argentine.

N. B. All Philatelic Publishers publishing this ad will receive in registered stamped envelope one set for each time.

N. B. Kindly mention Our Philatelia.

BARGAINS IN CANADIAN REVENUES.

A SURE INVESTMENT.

Secure them While they can be Got at Moderate Prices.

PACKET No. 1.—Contains 20 varieties Canadian Bill Stamps, 1st 2nd and 3d issue. Cat. value 75c. My price 25c.

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No. 7—Contains 20 var. Quebec Law Stamps, 1st and 2nd issues. Very rare. Including $1.00 and $2.00 values. Cat. value over $5.00. My price 75c.

No. 8—Contains 10 var. Manitoba Laws, including surcharges. Very rare. Cat. price over $4.00. My price 75c.

The above packets are **Grand Bargains** and wide-awake collectors will do well to make a collection of these scarce stamps, which have been out of use since 1878, before they get out of reach.

Want lists filled. References required Will exchange Canadian Revenues against good U. S. Postage or Revenues not in my collection. 32 page Price List free. AGENTS WANTED.

A. F. WICKS,

372 Horton St., London, Canada

"Ketchinson's Catalogue" prices all Canadian Postage and Revenue Stamps. Price 25 cents.